

National Marine Fisheries Service Highly Migratory Species Division

Atlantic Swordfish Landings Update SEPTEMBER 21, 2001

The 2001 fishing year for North and South Atlantic swordfish began June 1, 2001, and ends May 31, 2002.

As of August 31, 2001, preliminary estimates of North Atlantic swordfish landed in the fishing year beginning June 1, 2001, and ending May 31, 2002, indicate that:

- **S** 677,245 lbs dw have been landed in the directed category, or 27% of the quota for the FIRST SEMIANNUAL period. Therefore, subject to late reports, NMFS estimates that 1,838,424 lbs dw remains of the first semiannual quota.
- \$ 1,461 lbs dw have been landed in the incidental category, or 0% of the annual quota. Therefore, subject to late reports, NMFS estimates that 1,323,063 lbs dw remains to be landed through May 31, 2002.

As of August 31, 2001, preliminary estimates of South Atlantic swordfish landed in the fishing year beginning June 1, 2001, and ending May 31, 2002, indicate that:

S 0 lbs dw have been landed in the directed category, or 0% of the annual quota. Therefore, subject to late reports, NMFS estimates that 637,129 lbs dw remain to be landed through May 31, 2002.

TO: Christopher Rogers, Acting Chief, Highly Migratory Species

Division

FROM:

Jill Stevenson, Acting Team Leader, HMS Division-Southeast Regional Office

SUBJECT: 2001 Fishing Year Atlantic Swordfish Landings Update as of August 31, 2001¹

NORTH ATLANTIC SWORDFISH

	Dressed Weight (lbs)	Quota (lbs)	Percent of Quota Taken		
Directed Fishery: First Semi-Annual Season (June-Nov. 2001)					
Longline Rod/reel ² Harpoon Total	665,683 1,754 9,808 677,245	2,515,669 ³	27%		
Directed Fishery: Second Semi-Annual Season (Dec. 2001-May 2002)					
Longline Rod/reel ² Harpoon Total	N/A	2,515,669 ³	N/A		
Directed Fishery Total	677,245				
Incidental Fishery (annual quota)					
Otter Trawl Recreational ² Other Total	1,461 n/a 0 1,461	1,324,524³	0.1%		

SOUTH ATLANTIC SWORDFISH (annual quota)

	Landings (lbs)	Quota (lbs)	Percent Quota Taken
Total	0	637,129	0%

¹These data are preliminary and subject to revision based on late reports, landings by incidental permit holders, and recreational landings estimates. They do not represent final landings as estimated by NMFS.

² Recreational swordfish landings are counted against the annual Incidental quota. Those estimates are not available until the end of the fishing year and therefore are not included in this report.

³These numbers reflect an August 2001 transfer of unused 1999 swordfish quota to the current fishing year.